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SONIC UNIVERSE
SHATTERED
#4
OF 4
SONIC UNIVERSE | 90
BATTLE
FOR THE MASTER EMERALD

Welcome to the Sonic Comic Universe—a world unique & beyond what you know from the SEGA games!
Where Knuckles and Amy struggle against the evil of Walter Naugus to regain the Master Emerald!

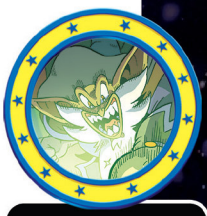
CHARACTER SELECT

SONIC UNIVERSE™

KNUCKLES
MASTER EMERALD GUARDIAN

AMY ROSE
UPBEAT HEROINE

TEAM DARK
SHADOW, ROUGE & E-123 OMEGA



WALTER NAUGUS
TROLL WIZARD

THE STORY SO FAR...

DECEPTION

Knuckles and Amy have been hunting down the pieces of the shattered Master Emerald.
Their search led them to link up with Team Dark and into conflict with the evil wizard Walter Naugus.

Through trickery and deceit, Walter managed to gather up all of the shards and restore the Master Emerald—as well as his lost powers.

Just as the heroes rush to stop him, Walter used the Master Emerald to further boost his regained magic and seal them all in crystal...

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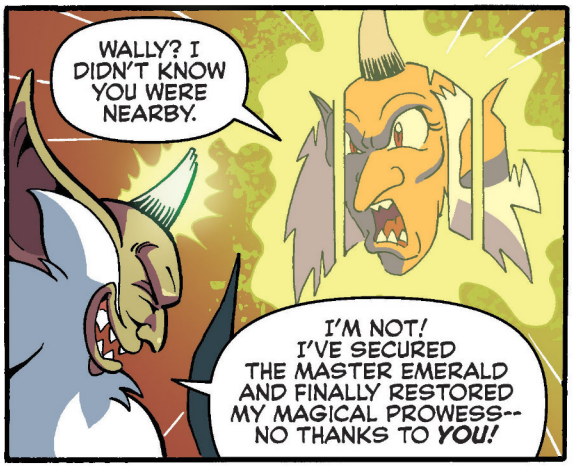
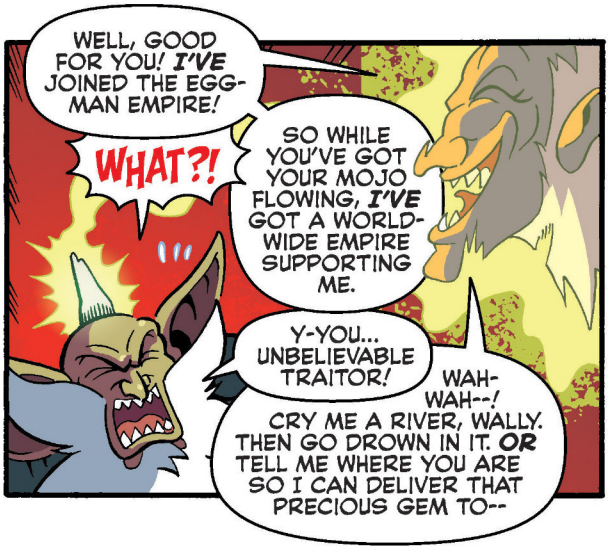
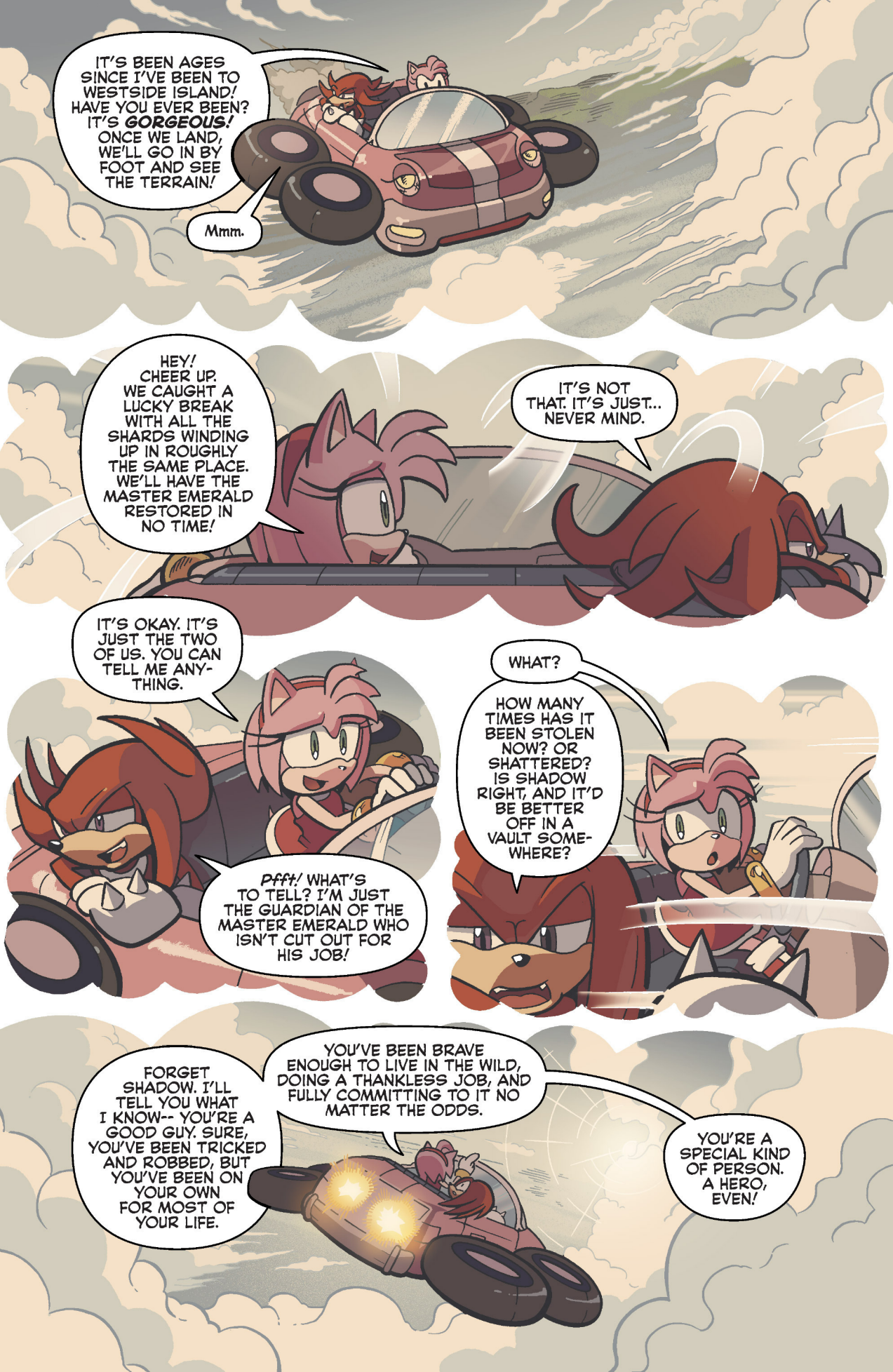
THE ONLY THING MORE SWEET THAN TOTAL VICTORY IS GLOATING ABOUT IT!
Oh, WENDY? DEAR SISTER, CAN YOU HEAR ME?


WALLY? I DIDN'T KNOW YOU WERE NEARBY.
I'M NOT! I'VE SECURED THE MASTER EMERALD AND FINALLY RESTORED MY MAGICAL PROWESS-- NO THANKS TO YOU!


WELL, GOOD FOR YOU! I'VE JOINED THE EGG-MAN EMPIRE!
WHAT?!
SO WHILE YOU'VE GOT YOUR MOJO FLOWING, I'VE GOT A WORLD-WIDE EMPIRE SUPPORTING ME.
Y-YOU... UNBELIEVABLE TRAITOR!
WAH-WAH--! CRY ME A RIVER, WALLY. THEN GO DROWN IN IT. OR TELL ME WHERE YOU ARE SO I CAN DELIVER THAT PRECIOUS GEM TO--

NO...I WON'T LET HER SPOIL THIS FOR ME. I'VE WON. AFTER A WELL-DESERVED REST, I'LL DECIDE WHAT TO DO WITH ALL OF YOU.
IT'S NOT LIKE YOU'RE GOING ANY-WHERE!
HAHAHAHAHAHA!!


IT'S BEEN AGES SINCE I'VE BEEN TO WESTSIDE ISLAND! HAVE YOU EVER BEEN? IT'S GORGEOUS! ONCE WE LAND, WE'LL GO IN BY FOOT AND SEE THE TERRAIN!
Mmm.
HEY! CHEER UP. WE CAUGHT A LUCKY BREAK WITH ALL THE SHARDS WINDING UP IN ROUGHLY THE SAME PLACE. WE'LL HAVE THE MASTER EMERALD RESTORED IN NO TIME!
IT'S NOT THAT. IT'S JUST... NEVER MIND.
IT'S OKAY. IT'S JUST THE TWO OF US. YOU CAN TELL ME ANY-THING.
Pfft! WHAT'S TO TELL? I'M JUST THE GUARDIAN OF THE MASTER EMERALD WHO ISN'T CUT OUT FOR HIS JOB!
WHAT?
HOW MANY TIMES HAS IT BEEN STOLEN NOW? OR SHATTERED? IS SHADOW RIGHT, AND IT'D BE BETTER OFF IN A VAULT SOME-WHERE?
FORGET SHADOW. I'LL TELL YOU WHAT I KNOW-- YOU'RE A GOOD GUY. SURE, YOU'VE BEEN TRICKED AND ROBBED, BUT YOU'VE BEEN ON YOUR OWN FOR MOST OF YOUR LIFE.
YOU'VE BEEN BRAVE ENOUGH TO LIVE IN THE WILD, DOING A THANKLESS JOB, AND FULLY COMMITTING TO IT NO MATTER THE ODDS.
YOU'RE A SPECIAL KIND OF PERSON. A HERO, EVEN!

THANKS, AMY.
ANYTIME.
DON'T TELL SONIC ABOUT ANY OF THIS.
YOU DON'T WANT HIM TO KNOW YOU'VE GOT A SOFT SIDE?
I DON'T WANT TO DEAL WITH HIM TEASING ME.
HE ONLY TEASES HIS FRIENDS. IT SHOWS HE CARES.
I DON'T CARE IF HE CARES...AND HE TEASES EGGMAN.
NO, HE MOCKS EGGMAN. THERE'S A DIFFERENCE.
AND HE NEVER GIVES UP. THAT'S WHAT I FIND SO INSPIRING ABOUT PEOPLE LIKE YOU TWO. NO MATTER WHAT, YOU KEEP FIGHTING.
YOU KEEP FIGHTING...
YOU KEEP FIGHTING...

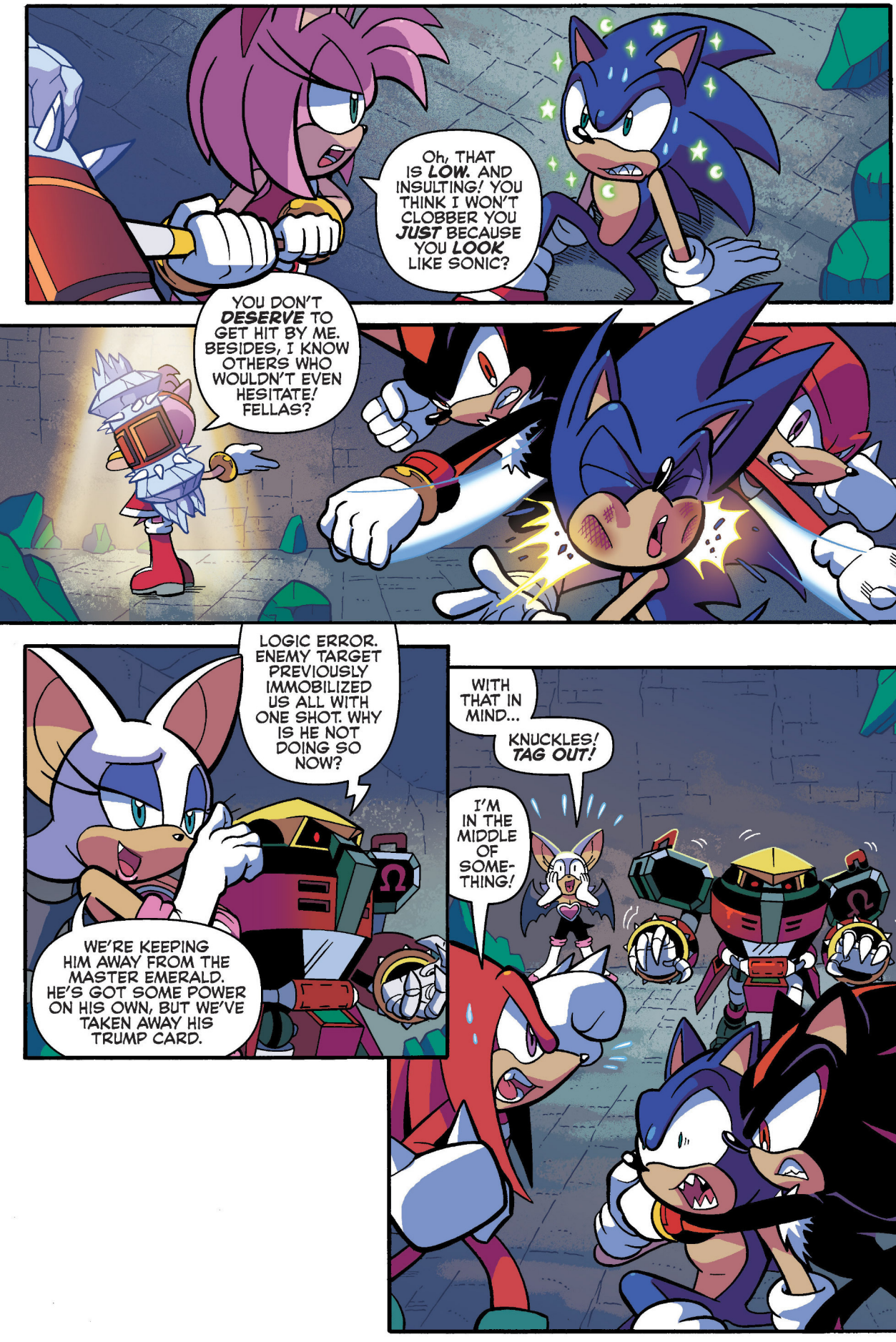
CREEEEEEEEK
CREEEEEEEEK
HHRAUGH!
KRISH
Huff Huff
...HE'S GONE... AND SO IS THE MASTER EMERALD... AND AMY...

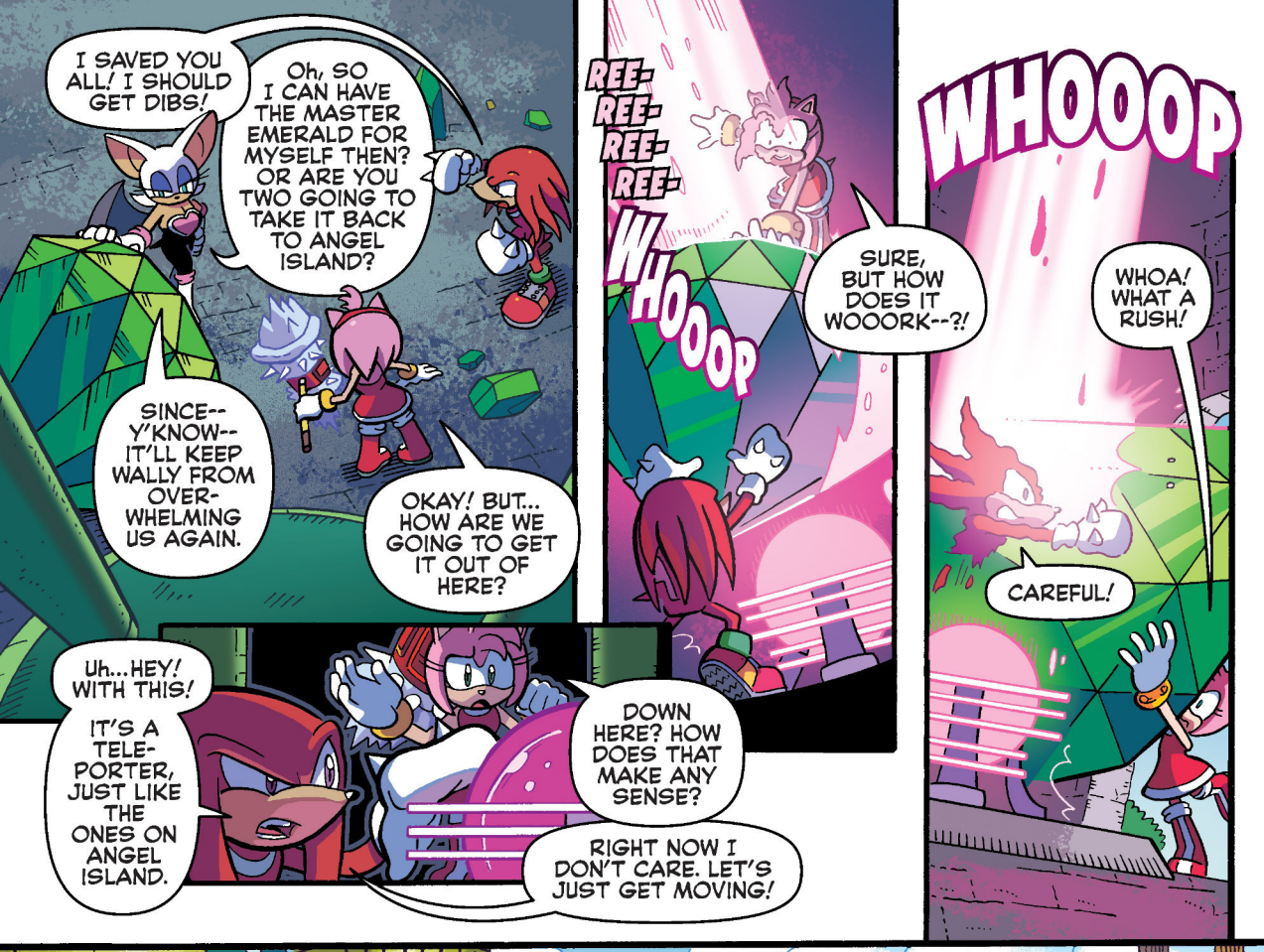
Ugh... HOW LONG WERE WE IN THERE?
TOO LONG. WALTER'S ESCAPED WITH THE MASTER EMERALD AND KIDNAPPED AMY TOO...I THINK.
CAN YOU TELL IF THEY'RE STILL IN THESE CAVERNS?
YEAH...I CAN SENSE THE MASTER EMERALD, THREE HUNDRED FEET BELOW US.
I WILL CREATE A SHORT-CUT.

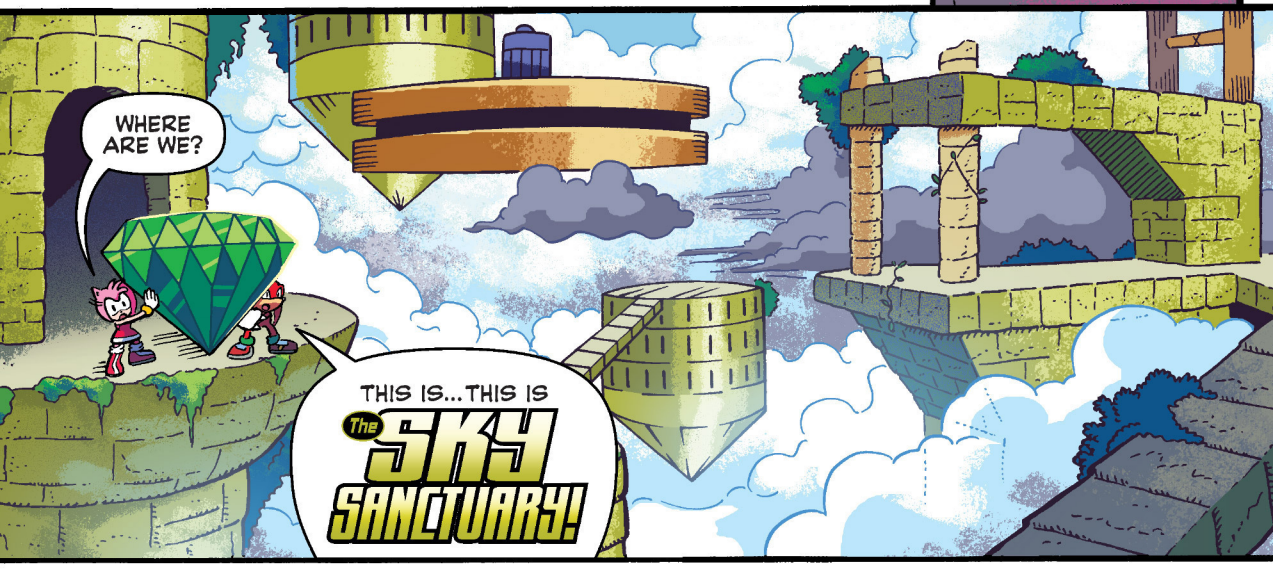
HRK!
GRPH!
MMPH!
≥Whew!≤ ONCE I HAVE YOU ALL IN MY LAIR, I'LL BEND YOUR WILLS TO MY OWN. WHAT A VANGUARD THE FIVE OF YOU WILL MAKE!
SONIC WON'T DARE CHALLENGE ME WITH YOU STANDING IN HIS WAY, MY PRETTY LITTLE--
RRRUMBLE
...WHAT IS...?
BRRRRRRM
NO! I WILL NOT LOSE! NOT WHEN I'M THIS CLOSE TO--!

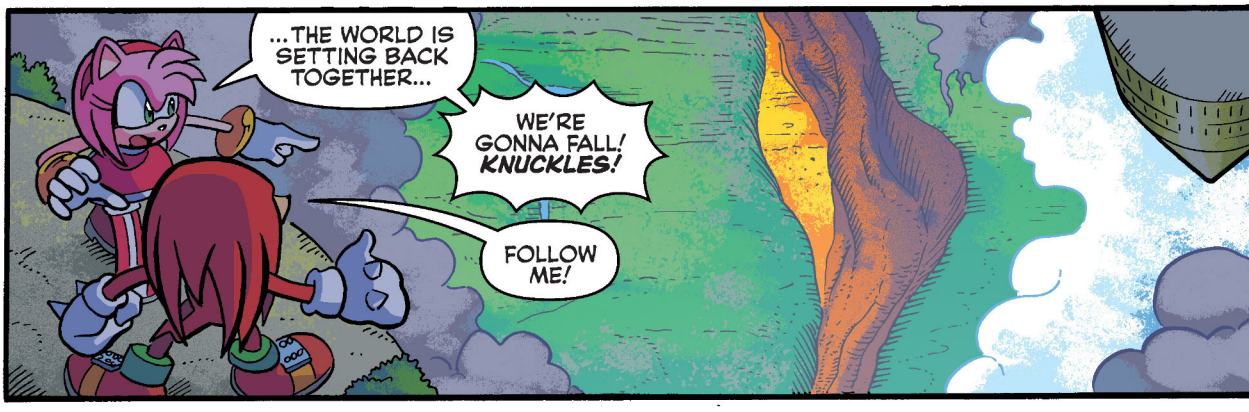
YOU'VE ALREADY LOST.
SOK
KRAK
YOU ALMOST BLASTED AMY AND THE MASTER EMERALD, YOU HUNK OF JUNK!
YOU DID NOT SPECIFY AN ANGLE FOR THE SHOT.
THERE'S NO WAY I COULD'VE KNOWN THAT!
THAT SOUNDS LIKE YOUR SHORT-COMING, NOT MINE.
FORGET IT.
SMASH
EASY DOES IT.
Urgh... THANKS, KNUX.
NO. THANK YOU.
WHAT?
I'LL EXPLAIN LATER.

METAL GOLEM! SERVE ME AGAIN!
NOPE!
SHNK
WELL, ISN'T THAT NICE? WALLY UPGRADED YOUR HAMMER FOR YOU.
TRY TO KIDNAP ME, Huh...?
AHH! NO! YOU... YOU...!
Y-YOU WOULDN'T HIT YOUR TRUE LOVE, WOULD YOU?

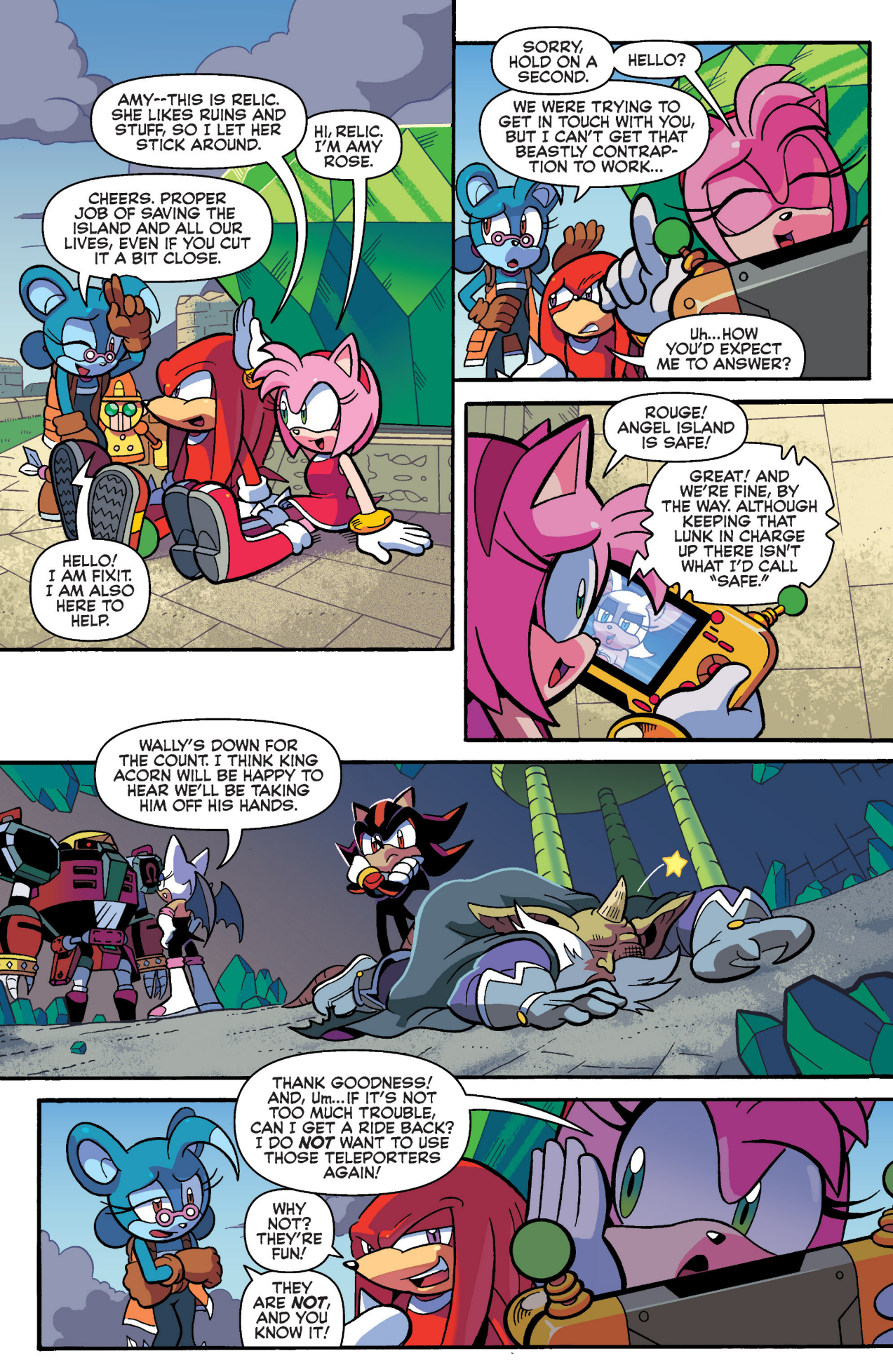

Oh, THAT IS LOW. AND INSULTING! YOU THINK I WON'T CLOBBER YOU JUST BECAUSE YOU LOOK LIKE SONIC?
YOU DON'T DESERVE TO GET HIT BY ME. BESIDES, I KNOW OTHERS WHO WOULDN'T EVEN HESITATE! FELLAS?
LOGIC ERROR. ENEMY TARGET PREVIOUSLY IMMOBILIZED US ALL WITH ONE SHOT. WHY IS HE NOT DOING SO NOW?
WE'RE KEEPING HIM AWAY FROM THE MASTER EMERALD. HE'S GOT SOME POWER ON HIS OWN, BUT WE'VE TAKEN AWAY HIS TRUMP CARD.
WITH THAT IN MIND...
KNUCKLES! TAG OUT!
I'M IN THE MIDDLE OF SOME-THING!

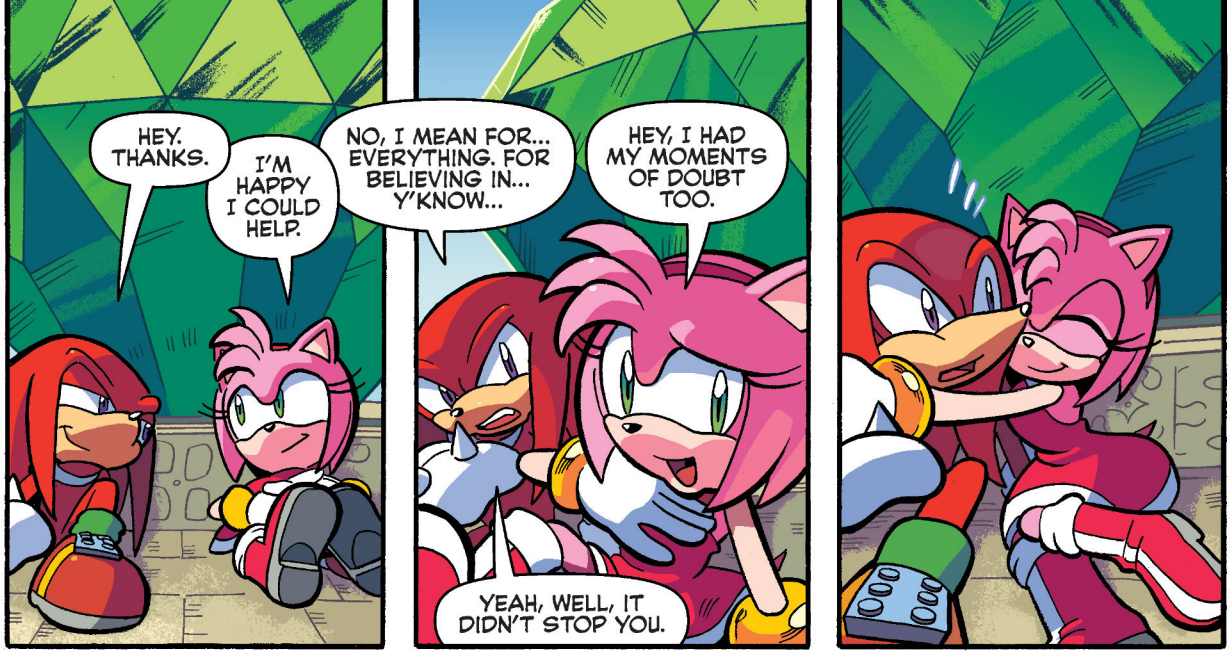

I SAVED YOU ALL! I SHOULD GET DIBS!
Oh, SO I CAN HAVE THE MASTER EMERALD FOR MYSELF THEN? OR ARE YOU TWO GOING TO TAKE IT BACK TO ANGEL ISLAND?
SINCE-- Y'KNOW-- IT'LL KEEP WALLY FROM OVER-WHELMING US AGAIN.
OKAY! BUT... HOW ARE WE GOING TO GET IT OUT OF HERE?
REE-REE-REE-REE-
WHOOOP
SURE, BUT HOW DOES IT WOOORK--?!
WHOOOP
WHOA! WHAT A RUSH!
CAREFUL!
Uh...HEY! WITH THIS! IT'S A TELE-PORTER, JUST LIKE THE ONES ON ANGEL ISLAND.
DOWN HERE? HOW DOES THAT MAKE ANY SENSE?
RIGHT NOW I DON'T CARE. LET'S JUST GET MOVING!

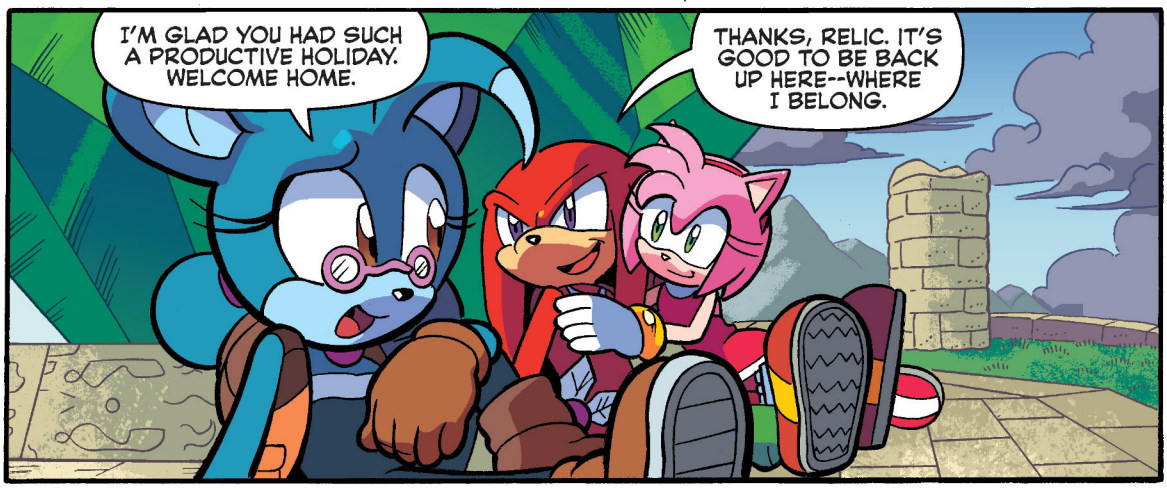

WHERE ARE WE?
THIS IS...THIS IS The SKY SANCTUARY!

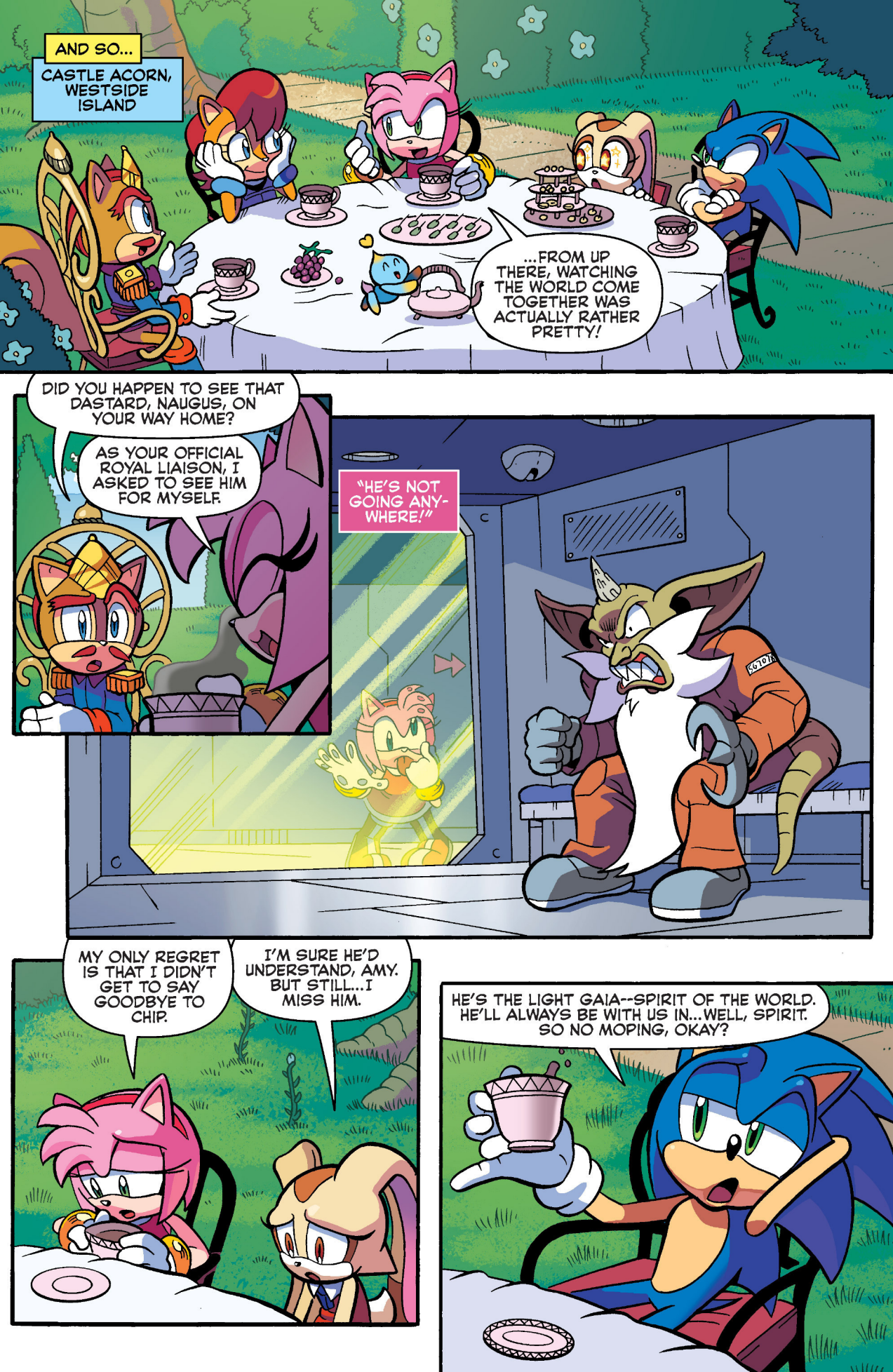

...THE WORLD IS SETTING BACK TOGETHER...
WE'RE GONNA FALL! KNUCKLES!
FOLLOW ME!

SCHWAAAHN
HAHAHA HAHAHAHA!!
WE...WE'RE LAUGHING NOW? IS THAT CATHARTIC "Oh, WHAT A RELIEF, WE'RE ALL SAFE" LAUGHTER OR "DASH IT ALL, WE'RE DOOMED, SO WHY NOT?" LAUGHTER?


AMY--THIS IS RELIC. SHE LIKES RUINS AND STUFF, SO I LET HER STICK AROUND.
HI, RELIC. I'M AMY ROSE.
CHEERS. PROPER JOB OF SAVING THE ISLAND AND ALL OUR LIVES, EVEN IF YOU CUT IT A BIT CLOSE.
HELLO! I AM FIXIT. I AM ALSO HERE TO HELP.
SORRY, HOLD ON A SECOND.
HELLO?
WE WERE TRYING TO GET IN TOUCH WITH YOU, BUT I CAN'T GET THAT BEASTLY CONTRAPTION TO WORK...
UH...HOW YOU'D EXPECT ME TO ANSWER?
ROUGE! ANGEL ISLAND IS SAFE!
GREAT! AND WE'RE FINE, BY THE WAY. ALTHOUGH KEEPING THAT LUNK IN CHARGE UP THERE ISN'T WHAT I'D CALL "SAFE."
WALLY'S DOWN FOR THE COUNT. I THINK KING ACORN WILL BE HAPPY TO HEAR WE'LL BE TAKING HIM OFF HIS HANDS.
THANK GOODNESS! AND, UM...IF IT'S NOT TOO MUCH TROUBLE, CAN I GET A RIDE BACK? I DO NOT WANT TO USE THOSE TELEPORTERS AGAIN!
WHY NOT? THEY'RE FUN!
THEY ARE NOT, AND YOU KNOW IT!

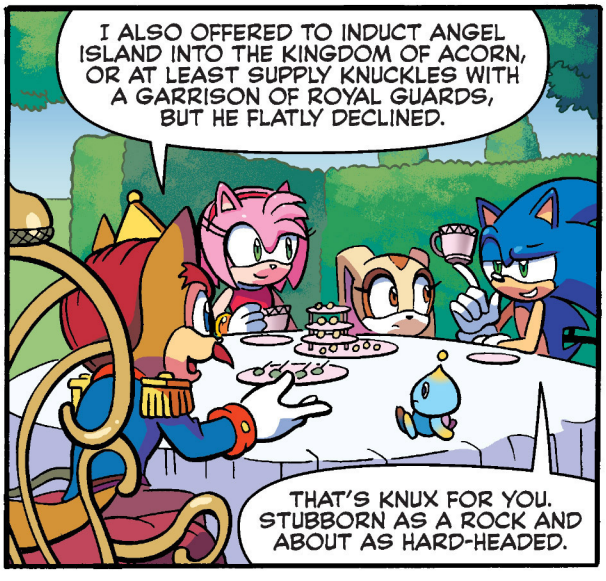

HEY. THANKS.
I'M HAPPY I COULD HELP.
NO, I MEAN FOR... EVERYTHING. FOR BELIEVING IN... Y'KNOW...
HEY, I HAD MY MOMENTS OF DOUBT TOO.
YEAH, WELL, IT DIDN'T STOP YOU.

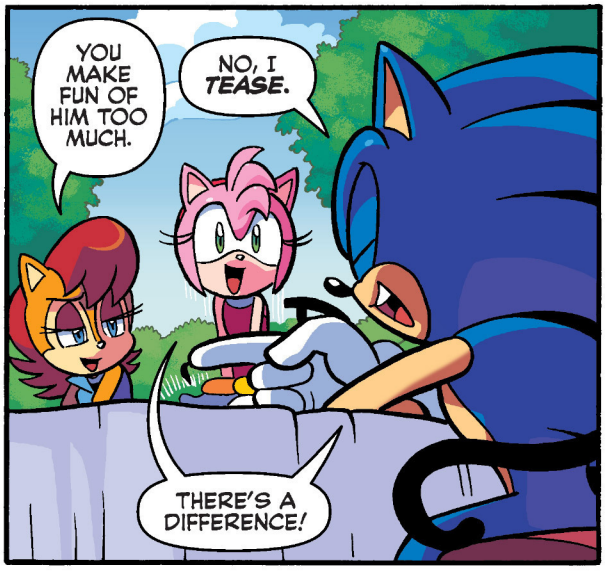

I'M GLAD YOU HAD SUCH A PRODUCTIVE HOLIDAY. WELCOME HOME.
THANKS, RELIC. IT'S GOOD TO BE BACK UP HERE--WHERE I BELONG.


AND SO...
CASTLE ACORN, WESTSIDE ISLAND
...FROM UP THERE, WATCHING THE WORLD COME TOGETHER WAS ACTUALLY RATHER PRETTY!
DID YOU HAPPEN TO SEE THAT DASTARD, NAUGUS, ON YOUR WAY HOME?
AS YOUR OFFICIAL ROYAL LIAISON, I ASKED TO SEE HIM FOR MYSELF.
"HE'S NOT GOING ANY-WHERE!"
MY ONLY REGRET IS THAT I DIDN'T GET TO SAY GOODBYE TO CHIP.
I'M SURE HE'D UNDERSTAND, AMY. BUT STILL...I MISS HIM.
HE'S THE LIGHT GAIA--SPIRIT OF THE WORLD. HE'LL ALWAYS BE WITH US IN...WELL, SPIRIT. SO NO MOPING, OKAY?

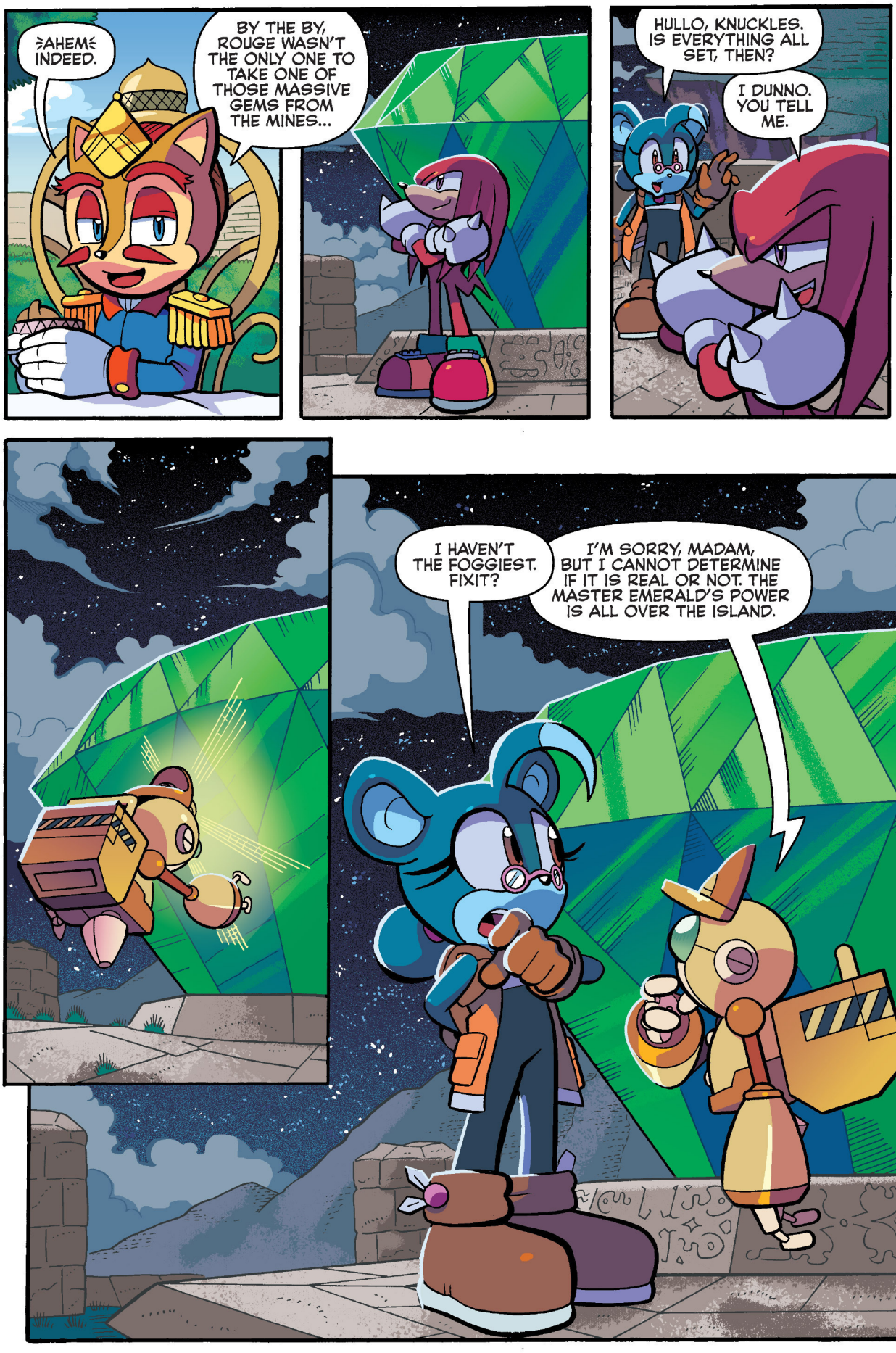
WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN TO THOSE HIDDEN CAVERNS NOW?
THEY'LL NEED TO BE PROPERLY SURVEYED, BUT UNTIL THEN THEY'RE UNDER CONSTANT WATCH BY THE ROYAL GUARD.

I HAD OFFERED TO REWARD TEAM DARK HANDSOMELY FOR THEIR SERVICES TO THE REALM, BUT ROUGE SEEMED CONTENT WITH THE ONE SOUVENIR. SHADOW AND OMEGA SEEMED...LESS MATERIALISTICALLY INCLINED, SHALL WE SAY?


I ALSO OFFERED TO INDUCT ANGEL ISLAND INTO THE KINGDOM OF ACORN, OR AT LEAST SUPPLY KNUCKLES WITH A GARRISON OF ROYAL GUARDS, BUT HE FLATLY DECLINED.
THAT'S KNUX FOR YOU. STUBBORN AS A ROCK AND ABOUT AS HARD-HEADED.

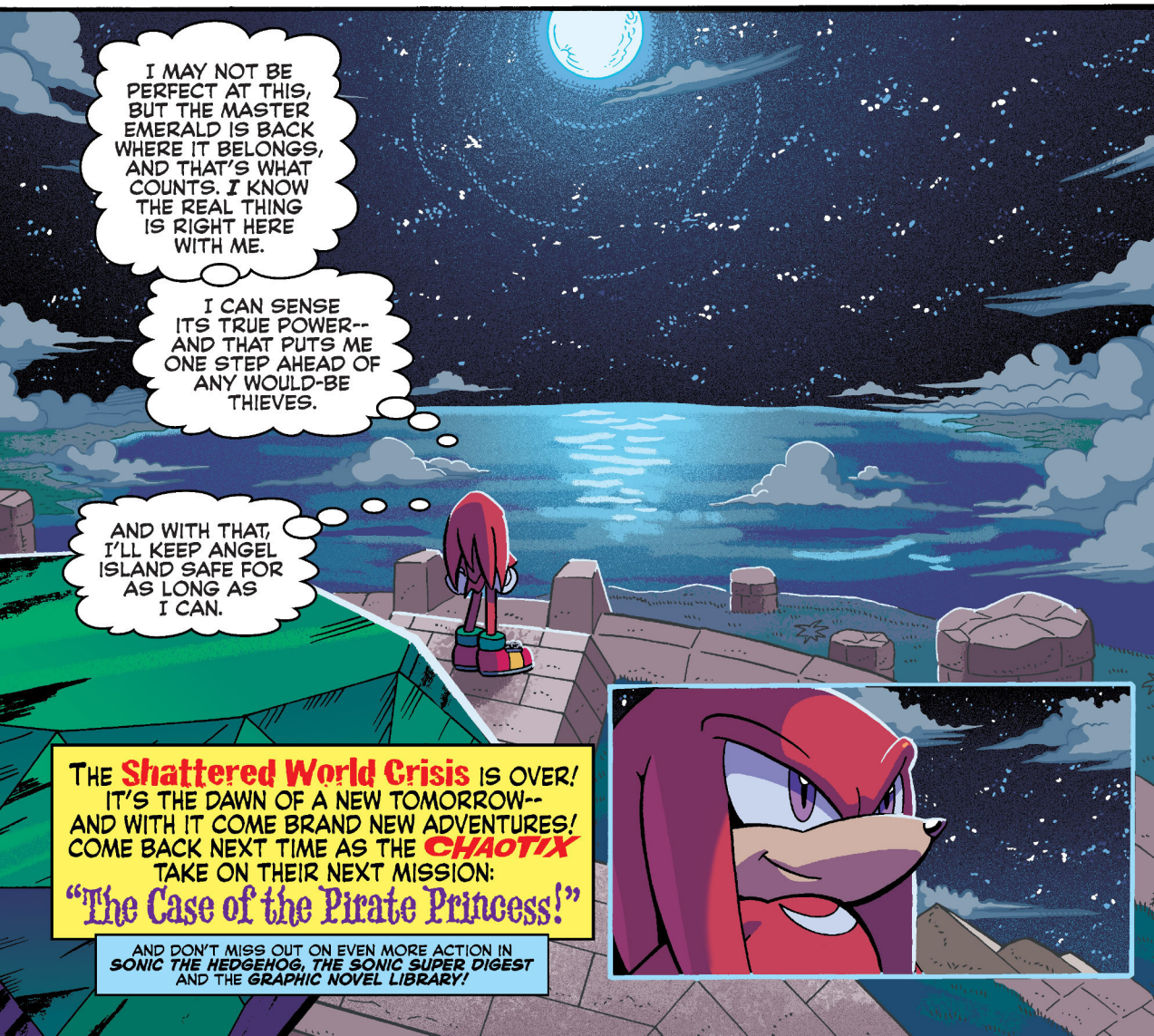

YOU MAKE FUN OF HIM TOO MUCH.
NO, I *TEASE*.
THERE'S A DIFFERENCE!

HAHAHA!!


AHEM INDEED.
BY THE BY, ROUGE WASN'T THE ONLY ONE TO TAKE ONE OF THOSE MASSIVE GEMS FROM THE MINES...
HULLO, KNUCKLES. IS EVERYTHING ALL SET, THEN?
I DUNNO. YOU TELL ME.
I HAVEN'T THE FOGGIEST. FIXIT?
I'M SORRY, MADAM, BUT I CANNOT DETERMINE IF IT IS REAL OR NOT. THE MASTER EMERALD'S POWER IS ALL OVER THE ISLAND.

EXACTLY. ANYONE ELSE LOOKING FOR IT WILL HAVE JUST AS HARD A TIME. AND I'M NOT TELLING WHICH ONE I'VE GOT OUT HERE!

VERY CLEVER! WELL, I'M STILL A BIT WORN, WHAT WITH NEARLY FALLING TO MY DOOM AND ALL. I'M CALLING IT A NIGHT. YOU SHOULD TOO, NO?
CHEERIO.
SLEEP WELL.


I MAY NOT BE PERFECT AT THIS, BUT THE MASTER EMERALD IS BACK WHERE IT BELONGS, AND THAT'S WHAT COUNTS. I KNOW THE REAL THING IS RIGHT HERE WITH ME.
I CAN SENSE ITS TRUE POWER-- AND THAT PUTS ME ONE STEP AHEAD OF ANY WOULD-BE THIEVES.
AND WITH THAT, I'LL KEEP ANGEL ISLAND SAFE FOR AS LONG AS I CAN.
THE Shattered World Crisis IS OVER! IT'S THE DAWN OF A NEW TOMORROW-- AND WITH IT COME BRAND NEW ADVENTURES! COME BACK NEXT TIME AS THE CHAOTIX TAKE ON THEIR NEXT MISSION:
"The Case of the Pirate Princess!"
AND DON'T MISS OUT ON EVEN MORE ACTION IN SONIC THE HEDGEHOG, THE SONIC SUPER DIGEST AND THE GRAPHIC NOVEL LIBRARY!

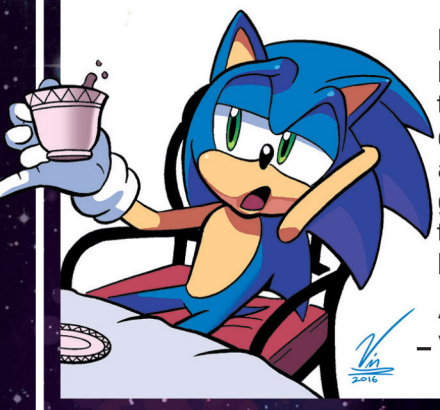
Letter from the EDITOR & KNUCKLES

Editorial commentary with lock-on technology!

BOY, TALK ABOUT CUTTING IT CLOSE...

What's up, Sonic fans? Angel Island is! Get it? Because it's... floating.... again... *AHEM!* With the Master Emerald back in its rightful place things can finally go back to normal for ol' Knux. Though I wonder where that other gem could be hidden...

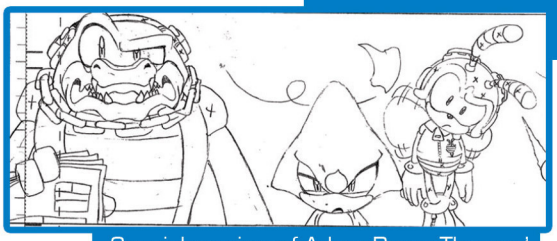
Ah well, that's a mystery for another time! Speaking of mysteries, our next story arc, "Case of the Pirate Princess" will feature Team Chaotix on the search for, you guessed it, a missing princess!



Both Aleah Baker and Ian Flynn will be lending their talents on this one, and I can guarantee this is gonna be fun!

Adieu, friends!

– Vincent"Vin" Lovallo
Editor



Special preview of Adam Bryce Thomas' pencils for *Sonic Universe* #91! What are they reacting to???

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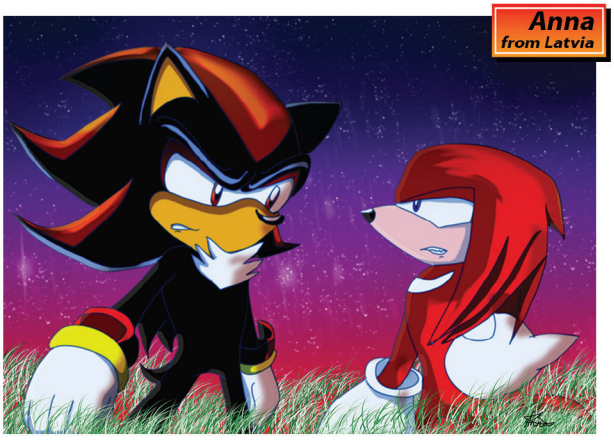
MY SONIC UNIVERSE™ FAN ART



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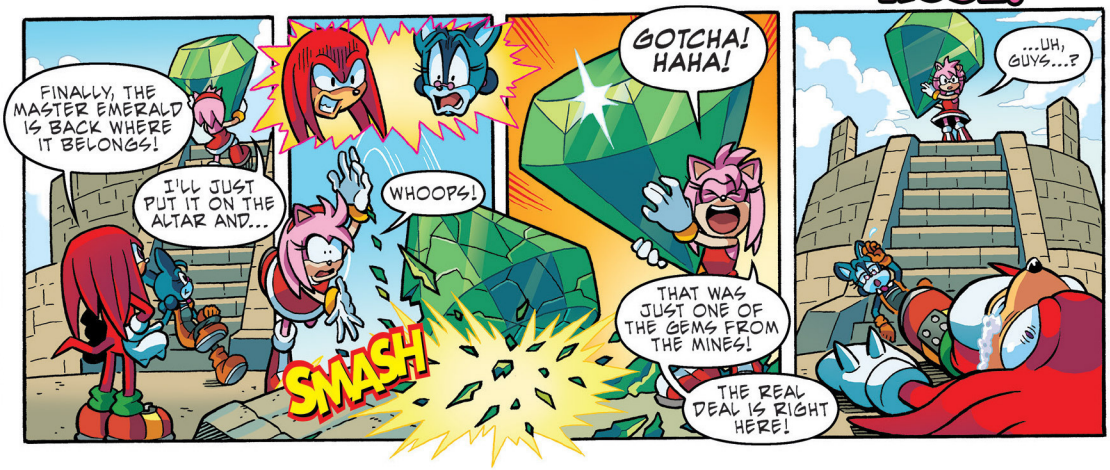
OFF PANEL

TIME TO ROCK & ROL--OH NO! OR THAT RASCALLY ROSE!


FINALLY, THE MASTER EMERALD IS BACK WHERE IT BELONGS!
I'LL JUST PUT IT ON THE ALTAR AND...
WHOOPS!
SMASH!
GOTCHA! HAHA!
THAT WAS JUST ONE OF THE GEMS FROM THE MINES!
THE REAL DEAL IS RIGHT HERE!
...UH, GUYS...?

SCRIPT: *ALEAH BAKER* PENCILS: *LAMAR WELLS* INKS: *GARY MARTIN* COLORS: *ELAINA UNGER*

NEXT ISSUE: SONIC UNIVERSE 91

PART ONE OF FOUR